

Rep. Waxman, Congresswoman Norton, and Rep. Schakowsky write to the DC Department of Health about a brand of candy known to contain unsafe lead levels available for purchase in the District.

The minority staff of the Committee on Government Reform found small packages of the candy, Lucas Limón, for sale for 39 cents in a store on Columbia Road in Adams Morgan. In the last five years, this product, which has been marketed as a seasoning but consumed by children as a candy, has repeatedly tested positive for unsafe lead levels. One small package may contain as much four to six times the amount of lead permitted in a child's daily diet.

Lucas Limón, a product of Effem Mexico, a subsidiary of Mars, Inc, is banned in the state of Illinois and the city of Milwaukee. California and Nevada have issued health advisories about the product. The company stopped manufacturing and marketing Lucas Limón and several other related products last year.

The candy was discovered as part of an ongoing congressional investigation of lead in children's products, candy wrappers, and candy. Repeated exposure to even low doses can cause impaired learning and behavioral problems. **Documents and Links**

- [Orange County Register \(CA\) 'Dulces Tíxicos' Poster \(Spanish\)](#)
- [Orange County Register \(CA\) 'Toxic Treats' Poster \(English\)](#)
- [Press Release](#)
- [Letter to DC Department of Health](#)